

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/757,454

Examiner

Joseph T Phan

Applicant(s)

GUPTA ET AL.

Art Unit

2645

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 09/13/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 6.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 03/26/2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with attorney of record, **Thomas Isaacson, Reg.No. 44,166, on October 20, 2004.**

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 1-5 and 7-16.

Amend claim 6 as follows:

6. A voice-operated arrangement for interacting with a plurality of dual-tone multi-frequency (DTMF)-controlled systems associated with a user, the arrangement comprising:

a speech recognition unit that generates a digital signal representative of a particular received voice command from the user; and

a speech-to-DTMF tones application that responds to the digital signal, accesses a user record from a plurality of records, retrieves dial-out information for one of the plurality of DTMF-controlled systems and completes a communication path between the user and the one DTMF-controlled system, wherein:

the voice-operated arrangement monitors the communication path, retrieves further voice commands uttered by the user and translates the further voice commands into DTMF tones which are thereafter transmitted to the one DTMF-controlled system;

the user record comprises a plurality of different fields comprises a series of said DTMF tones for accessing the one DTMF-controlled system within the plurality of DTMF-controlled systems.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Amended Claim 6 is now allowed and renumbered as claim 1. It is noted that claim 15 as amended in applicant's after-final amendment submitted 09/13/04 has been cancelled per authorization via telephone conversation with above attorney.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach, inter alia, a Speech-to-DTMF application that accesses a user record from a plurality of records and retrieves dial-out information for a DTMF-controlled system from the record to complete a communication path between the user and the DTMF-controlled system, wherein the application monitors the path and retrieves further voice commands by the user and translates the voice commands into DTMF tones which are thereafter sent to the DTMF-controlled system; the user record comprising a plurality of fields for each DTMF-controlled system and the fields comprising a series of said DTMF tones for accessing the one DTMF-controlled system.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph T Phan whose telephone number is 703-305-3206. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH 9:00-6:30, in every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on 703-305-4895. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JTP
October 20, 2004

JTP

FAN TSANG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

[Signature]